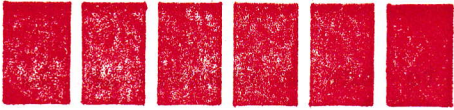


# STRATHBUNGO



## SOCIETY

# NEWSLETTER - SPRING '72

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### THE SIX SQUARES OF STRATHBUNGO

There's a story behind every symbol and the Strathbungo Society's symbol, printed at the top of this Newsletter, is no exception. It was designed by Robin Haddow, a member of the committee. The six blocks resemble the neo-classical ceiling embellishments that were common in Glasgow in the period when the older part of our area was built. They also represent the six "squares" of Strathbungo - formed by Pollokshaws Road, Moray Place and Nithsdale Road, Regent Park Square, Queen Square, Marywood Square, Vennard Gardens, Thorncliffe Gardens and Carswell Gardens, not forgetting Titwood Road.

### WHAT IS THE STRATHBUNGO SOCIETY DOING?

We've been finding out about ourselves, so that, if we are successful in our efforts to persuade the Corporation to declare the "six squares" a Conservation Area, we will at least know what we are talking about. We have produced three reports at monthly intervals on various aspects of our environment.

What have we found out? Well, the area is basically in good condition, but there are ~~danger~~ signs that it could soon develop acute symptoms of over-population in an age when Glasgow's overall population is dropping. The splitting of houses into hostels and boarding houses is chiefly the cause for concern: there are too many of them already for such a small area with its restricted road space and chronic parking problems. We've had a measure of success in spotlighting this aspect for the authorities.

We have also been investigating matters like stone-cleaning, lane-tidying, off-street parking, traffic control, motorways and expressways proposals, and commercial developments in the area, always, we hope, with a constructive and open mind. We have quickly built up a close contact with the Corporation's Planning Department, and we hope that, during the summer, the first fruits of our efforts to make Strathbungo an even better place in which to live will be realised.

One of the first of these may well be a pedestrian crossing for Darnley Road, so that the perils of crossing to the shops, or the Pollokshields West railway station, will be lessened. The Chief Constable is looking urgently into this matter as a result of our submissions.

### WHAT IS A CONSERVATION AREA?

A Conservation Area is intended to be a living, lived-in example of the best of past architecture and buildings, preserved in good condition for future generations to appreciate.

A Conservation Area will also bring more direct benefits to its inhabitants: help and encouragement to do something about things like stone-cleaning, pavements and parking, and protection against exploitation by commercial interests and against devaluation and disintegration of property.

In all these benefits, the Strathbungo Society aims to take an interest in, to foster and to encourage residents' own initiatives, and to guide communal developments in mutually helpful ways.

There will be no direct compulsion on anyone to do anything: rather, we wish to see people not doing things which may be detrimental to the community interest.

#### KEEP STRATHBUNGO TIDY!

One of the easiest ways in which we can all help positively to improve the environment concerns refuse disposal. The Corporation's Cleansing Department has already carried out its annual Spring clean of the back lanes in our area, but some of them are already littered with builder's rubble. Let's make a real effort to clear this up during the summer and keep our lanes clear and our foot-paths clean.

The recently distributed "Facelift Glasgow" leaflet from the Cleansing Department tells us how to get rid of all sorts of rubbish. Remember: bulky items can be removed free of charge - just ring 221-9600, extension 2484. Remember: garden refuse and other rubble can be taken to the Polmadie Road depot any day of the week from 8 am to 5 pm - if you can't do this, put your rubbish in cardboard boxes or bags, so that the weekly refuse collectors can without difficulty remove them.

Please do not dump garden refuse or rubble in the lanes or on the railway embankment: this attracts rats, which have been seen in the area recently. It doesn't look very pretty either!

#### OPEN MEETING AND ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

An Open Meeting will be held in the large hall of Queen's Park-Camphill Parish Church, Balvicar Street, on Monday April 24th, 1972 at 8 p.m. You are cordially invited to attend. Mr James Rae, Assistant Director of Glasgow Corporation's Planning Department will be the guest speaker. There will also be a small display of maps and photographs of the area, illustrating some of the information we have gathered over the last few months.

The Strathbungo Society's first Annual General Meeting will precede the Open Meeting at 7.30 p.m. The Agenda will be as follows:

1. Minutes of Inaugural Meeting on 6th December 1971.
2. Chairman's Report.
3. Adoption of interim accounts.
4. Election of new committee and office-bearers for the forthcoming year.
5. Resolution: "This meeting notes with regret that the development of public transport in the City of Glasgow has been allowed to fall behind the roads programme."
6. Any other business.